



CITY OF  
**PALO  
ALTO**

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PUBLIC ART COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
**Thursday, January 18, 2024**  
**Community Meeting Room & Virtual**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Commissioners Participating:** Nia Taylor, Lisa Waltuch, Ben Miyaji, Loren Gordon, Hsinya Shen

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**City Council Participating:** Patrick Burt, Council Member

**Staff Present:** Elise DeMarzo, Public Art Program Director  
Nadya Chuprina, Public Art Program Coordinator  
Amanda Deml, CSD Assistant Director  
Joseph Saxe, Public Art Project Manager

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Shen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS –

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - PAC Special Meeting November 29, 2023 **Moved:** Commissioner Miyaji;  
**Second:** Commissioner Taylor. **All in Favor.**

STAFF COMMENTS – Staff announced an ongoing call for artists for the King Artist Residency program with the submission deadline on February 2, 2024. Staff also thanked the Commissioners for participating in a productive Annual Retreat on Friday, January 12 to discuss and prioritize upcoming projects and initiatives and set new work priorities and objectives for 2024/25. Staff also introduced the new Council Liaison Patrick Burt to the commissioners.

**ACTION:**

1. **Public Art at Fire Station 4** – Staff provided a summary of the project background including the timeline for the artist’s research and community engagement to inform the artwork concept and design. Artist Stephen Galloway made a presentation of the proposed artwork conceptual design to the Commissioners and answered Commissioners’ clarifying questions. The proposed artwork will be a two-dimensional artwork that pays homage to the resilience symbolized by a compelling Palo Alto oak tree, blending seamlessly with the station’s architectural design, integrated into the façade of the new building and spanning two adjacent walls facing Middlefield and East Meadow. It will have a distinct day and night presence. **Motion:** Commissioner Miyaji moved to

approve the conceptual design of artwork for Fire Station #4 by artist Stephen Galloway. **Second:** Vice Chair Gordon. **All in Favor.**

2. **Adoption of Priorities for 2024** – Commissioners reviewed the PAC Priorities for 2024 drafted at the PAC Annual Retreat held on January 12. Upon some discussion and final edits, the priorities were approved as follows:

**Building Community Priority:** Develop public art that encourages engagement, belonging, and community participation, and that promotes shared experiences in and around Palo Alto Neighborhoods and commercial corridors.

**Social Justice Priority:** Develop public art projects that will continue to advance empathy, ethnic and cultural inclusion and celebration, and social, racial, and gender equity.

**Public Art Education Priority:** Widen and strengthen education and advocacy for public art, including through the roll-out and implementation of the California Avenue District Master Plan and the Baylands Art Plan, and PAMP long-term goals, while responding to current issues and supporting a wider network of artists.

**Motion:** Vice Chair Gordon made a motion to approve the PAC Priorities for 2024. **Second:** Chair Shen. **All in Favor.**

COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR FUTURE ITEMS: Commissioner Miyaji proposed to consider a succession plan for the outgoing commissioners offering mentoring for the new PAC commissioners.

CALENDAR: Next PAC Regular Meeting – February 15, 7 pm (hybrid) at City Hall Community Meeting Room.

MEETING ADJOURNED: at 8:03 pm by Chair Shen.